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of letters in America. The preface deals briefly with the interest shown in Kentucky by outside writers, and with the history of Kentucky magazines. Mr. Allen's "solvent principle" for the writing of an adequate history of American literature, as expressed in the introduction, is provocatively interesting.

GEORGE HERBERT CLARKE.

Gabriel Richard, Sulpicien, Curé, et Second Fondateur de la Ville de Détroit. La Mémoire du P. Rasle Vengée. Par N.-E. DIONNE, LL.D., M.S.R.C., Professeur d'Archéologie Canadienne à l'Université Laval. [Galerie Historique, VI.] (Quebec: Laflamme et Proulx. 1911. Pp. xv, 191.)

"CE modeste livre", as the author calls it, is here judged by the requirements of the series in which it forms volume six—a series aiming to give, in simple manner, only essential facts for general readers.

This number deals with the life, character, and service of two early missionaries, Gabriel Richard and Sébastien Rasle. The learned author's grasp has enabled him to put compactly into clear and interesting narrative a large amount of information not elsewhere easily accessible to the general public. The presentation is not always dispassionate. The author has a deeply sympathetic appreciation of the courage and devotion with which these men met overwhelming difficulties. The general point of view is reflected in the phrase with which the author turns to narrate the life of Sébastien Rasle, "oubliant pour le quart-d'heure notre origine française et notre titre de catholique" (p. 134); and the general tone, in the closing words on Gabriel Richard, "Honneur et gloire à cet homme de bien!" (p. 108).

About three-fourths of the book is given to Richard. A brief introduction outlines the founding of the Sulpitian seminary at Baltimore (1791-1792) and the advent of Richard as one of its first teachers. In nine short chapters is traced the career of Richard from the beginning of his work among the missions of the Illinois country in 1792 to his death at Detroit in 1832. He was stationed at Detroit in 1798, and his life from that time is shown to have been intimately connected with every vital phase of Michigan's growth towards statehood.

The original material used for this sketch is mainly the parish records of Ste. Anne's (manuscript in the Burton library, Detroit) and Richard's correspondence, particularly with Bishops Carroll, Fenwick, and Flaget. Characteristic of the sketch is the textual reproduction of frequent and long quotations from this correspondence, which is drawn largely from Shea's *Life and Times of Archbishop Carroll*. Use is made of the contemporary Detroit newspapers and of the usual government publications (1823-1825) which bear on Richard's political activities. The *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections* are freely used and references are made to the writings of Campbell, Cooley, and Farmer on the history of Detroit and Michigan.

The absence of a bibliography and of all but the most scant citations of sources in the foot-notes, is in keeping with the popular character of the work. An appendix contains a chronological list of Catholic missionaries to the Kaskaskias (1670-1798), a similar list of Catholic missionaries and curés at Detroit (1704-1798), and the naturalization papers of Richard in English and French. At the end of the book is an alphabetical list of names, but there is not a general index.

The sketch of Sébastien Rasle is frankly polemical, as the title, "La Mémoire du P. Rasle Vengée" would suggest. Of the four chapters, chapter II. alone is given to Rasle's life and work. The object of criticism in the remaining chapters is James Phinney Baxter's *The Pioneers of New France in New England*, in which that author questions the authority of Charlevoix, who is the principal source of information about Rasle. The method is that of producing counter-weighting opinions of other historians. In chapter III. a letter is introduced written by Bishop Fenwick in 1833 attributing the Indian murder of Rasle at Norridgewock in 1724 to instigation of the English, who are said to have subsequently sought to besmirch the memory of the missionary in order to justify their action. The author has made his case quite as convincing as this method permits.

On the whole this little book is a welcome popular presentation and hints that the author is capable of giving us scholarly biographies of these men.

GEORGE NEWMAN FULLER.

Historia de Chile durante los Gobiernos de García Ramón, Merlo de la Fuente y Jaraquemada (Continuación de los seis Años de la Historia de Chile). Por CRESCENTE ERRÁZURIZ (Fray Raymundo Errázuriz), Correspondiente de la Academia Española. In two volumes. (Santiago de Chile: Imprenta Cervantes. 1908. Pp. xiv, 379; 383.)

THE purpose of the author is to place in a clear light the characters and customs of the period from 1605 to 1612 by portraying the minute transactions, not usually found in a general history.

The narrative commences with the appointment in 1605 of García Ramón to the governor-generalship of Chile. He replaced Alonso de Rivera, who in spite of his excellent handling of a difficult situation had incurred official displeasure. Ramón was given a large army and was well supported by the *encomenderos* whose favor he had won in his previous administration. He was unequal to his task and, after five years of fruitless warfare, died from a wound received in battle. His successor Merlo de la Fuente, although hated by all, was successful in several campaigns against the Araucanians. The new governor-general, Juan Jaraquemada, took office in January, 1611. He was quite the opposite of Fuente, excessively prudent and dilatory. It was only